Oswald's Foreign Activities - TOP SECRET, undated Coleman/Slawson memo
Conspiracy, etc.

p1. Conclusion: no foreign conspiracy but evidence Commission should know.

3 Classified TOP SECRET allegedly to protect sources.

4 Material masked out. On different size-smaller-paper.
Inference some from wiretapping
Bottom: assumes genuineness of LHO's N.O. pamphletering, etc.

6 That he was Castro agent "preposterous." But his "circumstances and character" qualify him as Castroite assassin!

(Inherent assumption of LHO as lone assassin at this early date.)

7 While unlikely LHO was USSR's assassin of JFK he could have been KGB assassin to kill others in US!!!

12-3 LHO had help in learning Russian and getting there? Not from USSR.

13 "Hardship" discharge

14 Got passport before he got discharge, which was fraudulent. Says help in this from Russia impossible but does not indicate where it was possible.

15 Ignores questions of how LHO got to Helsinki in time he did. No mention.

16 State Dept figured he had been "tutored" on how to get there easily and knew what was not generally known. Again obvious inference ignored.

17 Masking in how he got and used visa. Again smaller sized paper.

19 All bottom, all p. 20 except one sentence masked, different sized paper. First masking on 19 is part of a sentence, blacked out. This sentence deals with
*** what Nosenko said, apparently to whom he said it and thus no reason to mask.
P. 21 also smaller paper. Seems a bit paler. Possibly masked and then changed back to no withholding?
Nosenko masking may have been of earlier date? This entire section deals with indications of "outside help."

21 End of masking behins with reference to "forgeries" of even his passport. Here they also say that when Oswald was in the hotel he "was in the hands of the KGB." From what is not masked it appears that some of what was deals with the possibility
*** LHO had gone to or enterred the USSR via Stockholm. If it deals with the time question, then the reason for masking it is other than normal or proper.

21-2 While the only conclusions considered are USSR help, that is entirely debunked and the alternative again is ignored. Unless the possibility of US intelligence agency help is what is masked.

22 Questions whether Oswald's dairy is "an authentic document."

*** 23 Top, again blacking out of reference to Nosenko, in similar sense. Smaller page. While it is not clearly visible as in earlier cases and could easily be attributed to xeroxing blemishes, part of the bottom of this page has been masked out, proven by content measurement. It is only a chronology, between the listings for 10/22-9/69 last on p. 23) and 10/31, top 24. P. 24 much darker tyoing, too, indlicating different or rexeroxing of p. 23. The period is between hospitalization and LHO's appearance at the USEmbassy, Moscow. Thelast item is directly contradicted by what Nosenko said.

25 Conjectures attempted suicide("allegedly attempted") was only a cover for some sort kind of training or brainwashing."
Second reference to LHO's failure to renlunce citizenship.

26 The "cautious welcome" LHO is said to have received is directly contradicted by what Nosenko said, which again is totally ignored. One means by which this is done is to confuse (deliberately) between KGB and the USSR government.

27 When they get to what Nosenko said they again edit it, restricting it to that LHO was of no interest to the KGB. Actually, they ordered him to leave the country. The order was issued, at night, and Nosenko says it was the KGB's order.

++++ 28 When Nosenko's statements are not what the Commission wanted and when he was readily available to the Commission through the CIA and the FBI they say that "Our information on what Nosenko says is somewhat vague on what then occurred," when Oswald was told for the <u>second</u> time that he could not stay in the USSR.
Why did they not have Nosenko asked?
Here they finally admit that Nosenko said the KGB wanted LHO out of the USSR.
++++ Here they do not say that the KGB regarded LHO as a sleeper agent. They knew it, Nosenko did say it, and they wrote another memo incorporating it. Do they admit this or inform the Commission later?

29 Third admission LHO never renounced citizenship.
Without pointing out that he knew it was a lie they quote LHO's (literate and grammatically correct) letter saying that the Supreme Soviet was considering granting him citizenship. He was first told to leave the country the evening of 10/22. This letter is dated 11/3.

30 Second limited interpretation of McVickar's statement, this time ignoring the possible meaning of Oswald's using words he did not understand in talking about Marxism and legalities. Again the context, help to LHO prior to his going to USSR.
Fourth admission LHO did nothing to renounce his US citizenship.
Here they note the number of the "Identity Document for Stateless Persons" LHO was given, 311,479, <u>without</u> noting that it is one of the numbers on the mysterious paper LHO had on him when he was arrested in New Orleans, the paper in which Captain Martello could never elicit any interest after three tries that I remember. Instead and continuing top 31 they conjecture LHO and USSR connived in his getting this paper so he could return to US and express suspicions about the suicide attempt.

31 That he was coached, by the KGB. And that they considered "whether he was 'good agent material.'" Opposite what Nosenko said and all indicates. So they omit Nosenko. Followed by wilder, irrational conjectures.

32 Aline Mosby also noted that Oswald used words and said things he did not understand. (This, of course, means exactly the opposite of the conjectures.)

*** 33 By measurement there is masking at the bottom, probably a short paragraph, in full.
With what preceeds and follows it could be conjecture about LHO having connections with US agencies. His ignorance of Marxism preceeds and admission that other evidence "contradicts the hypothesis that the suicide was a fabrication and that his failure to complete steps to expatriate himself were the result of Soviet coaching and advice," thereafter itemized.

35 "...what a devout, totally-committed Communist he had once been."

38 He was "fully accepted by the Soviet State..."

*** 41 Name earlier defecter blacked out although known to USSR.

get? 43 Marginal note end ref to CIA memo on how LHO treated in USSR is to CE 2762.
The CIA's memo was of April 4 but the CE 2762 is dated 9/10/74.

43-4 Opinions of the CIA, if faithful to this memo, has them debunking the possibility Oswald was a KGB agent with what was obvious and publicly known only. Had they not dealt with the very obvious they have been suspect. However, there is this fascinating parenthetical comment at the end: "(Whether she [Reporter Priscilla Johnson] passed her impressions on the the public at the time is not known.)" If it was not known either to the CIA or the Commission, which or both being unclear from context and unaddressed, it was only because nobody wanted to know and because there is a document saying she was working for the State Department in Moscow, read CIA.

**** 44-5 "Nosenko's Statement" limited to seven typed lines not masked and less than four that are masked.
If none of Nosenko's statements are withheld, what is the basis for masking?

44 The only direct quote is unfaithful, that in Oswald "the KGB had 'no current interest.'" They actually suspected him.

45 Direct quote on KGB's low regard followed by masking which I venture to suggest is of their suspicions or LHO as #sleeper aget," not referred to here either. This again is smaller page, indicating withholding by another agency.Typing lighter.

47 Reference to the small rent LHO paid makes no reference to standards. It was not low for USSR rentals.

48 Indication of what Nosenko reported and here has been suppressed, of USSR surveillance on Oswald out of mistrust, is reported without indication that it was or had to have been from surveillance of this kind.
(Missing in this section is any suggestion about what LHO did with what is described as a small fortune over and above the extras in pay that he got, more than 2,500 rubles after he paid his debts and expenses. He also got a Red Cross allotment and a fine salary. But borrowed money to return to US.)

52 On LHO's ownership of a shotgun: there have been several annotations, refs to CDs. Here in the margin is a ref to R. 274. All apparently are in Marion Johnson's writing. Other missing citations, like to the Nosenko statements and the absence of any other citations, with the referring to CIA's help, makes one wonder. The others as I recall are all to CIA documents.

++++ 56 In long section on Marina as KGB, etc., here 5+ lines have beendrawn through and thus obscured. The xeroxing is of much poorer wuality on this page. Along the right margin are two vertical lines of emphasis, the first blacker. The conenet fairly clearly is on who is whose agent.

57 Followed by Marina as possibly a "dormant agent" whereas to this point the KGB's fear that LHO was a "sleeper agent" is entirely suppressed.

58 The political views of this pair is reflected in this language about both Oswalds, "it he (or she) were not agents of the Russian Communist conspiracy..."

59 In the light of what has since become public there is a fascinating bit of conjecture about whether or not the Russians intercepted the letter from LHO's mother inquiring about him and how it coincides with his efforts to return. The source cited for stating that Maguerite's letter went by pouch to the Moscow embassy is the CIA, not the State Dept. Yet we now know that the CIA intercepted and read all mail to the USSR for that period. And what is not mentioned here yet, Nosenko's statements that even Oswald's mail in the USSR was under Russian surveillance. Here the statement would have helped the argument but is missing.

++++ Coinciding is another smaller page and a shorter page of typing that, were it not for the different page sizes, could be attributed to its being the end of a section.

60-5 Long, heavily-edited (masked) section on LHO's travel from Minsk to Moscow w/o prior approval. Nosenko told them this was no big deal but they do have all this masked (overty and covertly) length.
What makes this more interesting is that Nosenko also reported that LHO was under surveillance, including USSR's mail surveillance. Do they note this?

61 Bottom of the page masked in a manner not to show it was masked. The prior and cancelled TOP SECRET stamp and its cancellation are not completely hidden.
What is masked is subsection A, for which there is no breakdown in the table of contents. The cancellation of the "question" which is how each subsection begins, would seem not to be subject to classification, if any of the rest is. At the top of the next page is "B."

62 It deals with freedom ot travel and does not include Nosenko.
C also omits Nosenko 's information. It is on would anything happen?
There appears to be more of this masking also at the bottom, because the typing on the page is much shorter than on others.

64 Out of context quotation of Nosenko saying no law against it followed by overt masking of three lines. Maybe some covert masking at bottom.

+++ 65 Overt masking at top It includes the question, 2 and is about a third of the page. The answer reports Oswald's conversation with Snyder at the Embassy on that Saturday but does not quote what Snyder reported. Aside from memos and interviews Snyder testified in early June (5H261ff).

+++ This and the following oage are smaller.

66 No visible masking and no reason to be covert masking.
No more than a coincidence that the two men who dealt with Marina on this visit (LHO got her by phone to fly to Moscow 6/61) are the same two who earlier dealt with LHO.

69 The one absent consideration when they conjecture about the Oswalds leaving USSR is that USSR wanted to get rid of him. (See Nosenko.) Nosenko is quoted to say that there was no law to prevent Marina's depature if she had not had access
+++ to classified information. There is covert masking at the bottome beginning with the question as posed to the CIA, followed by a colon.

+++ 70 Can't be complete. Probably covert bottom masking, with prior stamp visible. Page begins with quotation of an item numbered 6. Then 7 follows. Both apparently complete paragraphs. Parts both marginally identified with CE2762. But the quotes are not closed.

+++ 71 Presume some of page, bottom, missing.
The questions in this entire section are stupid because if either Oswalds had been a KGB agent the last likely thing is that the KGB would have permitted anything out of the ordinary to taint their departure.

+++ 73 is heavily masked and has been rexeroxed. The first masking is opposite the entry CE960 and is of the name of an American defector, the last thing secret from the Russians.The second case is similar but deals with the employee of an American company whose name is also masked. Secret from the Russians who were in on this?
The rest of the masking can be of this one name.

+++ 74 The name masked at the top is longer than that on 73. Page rexeroxed, ahdn cancellation of classification.No ref. to USSR's interception all LHO's mail entire section.

75 Post-return contact with USSR embassy.

+++ 77 About a third masked, two places. Both deal with his Mexico trip. Smaller page on which classification was cancelled by hand.

+++ 80 Masking ~~five~~ six spaces, inc;uding blanks, om who knew Azque was to be replaced.

xxxx ~~84-7~~x("to us?") CIA memo.

+++ 84-7 Smaller paper, hand cancelleds. Almost 1 /3 under Nosenko masked 84. Says only he was interviewed by FBI and "final report" is attached. But he was interroggted by the CIA, it says. As would also be assumed once he defected to it. Them masking ends with the quotation of Nosenko indicating no possibility of USSR involvement in JFK assassination. FBI s papers not restricted. 85 seems to have no masking.

+++ 86 Masking after signatures not LHO's on USSR papers.

+++ 87 Masking more than three lines on smaller paper. Seems to have to do with LHO'S "living out a legend," unspecified.

90 Reasons for suspecting Cuban involvement include their hatred for JFK! It, they say, "needs no elaboration." (That surely is not what it does need!)

+++ 92-3 Small pages, heavily masked,dealingwith LHO/Mexico. Rexeroxed, hand cancelled. Also prior blacking out of what LHO did in Mexico city other than visit consulates, 2 lines, almost 2 lines following comment on testimony of Senora Duran.

93 First masking follows mention of attaching of two documents. Last item in appendix is a slip sheet saying that two documents are withheld for security reasons/ Second again on Duran, follows statement she was questioned by Mexican police.

94 This is not the beginning of Duran's statement and can't be. No omissions indicated and quotation marks used. Continues to top 96, propagandistically, with indicated ...s.

96 Cuban government to forward original papers, including pix, handwriting. Plus Duran's. Are these in 26?

Abrupt switch to 1026 Beckley w/o even a subhead.

+++ 97-102 rexorxed on smaller paper, machine leaving right-side mark as on others.

97 Bottom half masked out. Possibility earlier partial blacking outmbecause 98 begins with that to period, less than first full line.

98 After "references to the basic FBI" there are seven characters omitted besides the beginning and ending spaces. "and CIA" would just fit. Blacked out. Or, was initial blacking out by CIA?

98-9 Valencia Gutierrez story, nothing missing from 99.

100 Almost bottom half masked except beginning last sentence

101 Almost 3 limes masked after mention of tan Renault.

102 Beginning with end of this sentence rest of Valencia part masked, third page.

+++ 102-3 Gilberto Alvaredo Ugarte story, heavy masking, smaller paper 104-6. Note no mention pictures in Valencia part. (With both stories <u>not</u> checking out, enormous space for such a memo. And these are supposedly the best stories on conspiracy!)

104 More than third masked immediately after statement Alvaredo was interrogated, investigated. Two lines later, same conditions. Alvaredo abandoned the entire concoction but this continues. Another page and a half.

106 More than line masked after comment that Valencia saw the polygraph results.

+++ 107-11 last section, no section on conclusions:"<u>IV. Anti-Castro Involvement.</u>" Begins false date for LHO's approach to Bringuier, "early August 1963." The entire story is not that Bringuier testified to, however. Minor disturbance called "minor riot on the streets of New Orleans." No ref to LHO's asking for FBI.

107-8 notes Bringuier's story that FBI was looking for a Mexican allegedly with LHO but "No trace of this information is inthe FBI files, however."

108 Barebones Odio story.

109 Rexoxed but not small. Poor copy, last sentence blacked out. Effort made to undercut Odio with all the space on the Mexico garbage even after it was known to be false. However, all checks of her favorable. Blackout follows this.

110 First five lines blacked out. poor rexeroxed copy. Conclusion"<u>could</u> lead to an anti-Castro involvement," rather an understatement.

111 If double agents set him up "the law enforcement authorities and the public would then blame the assassination on the Castro government..." Called "A wild speculation" but worthy of further investigation. Note: not until late September was it made.

A Appendix not paged. First is CD 843, 4/24/64 Chayes letter to Rankin. Covers McVickar memo of 4/7/64 (3pp) and refers to not attached Snyder telegram already at WC. Originally classified Confidential. Full of invalid conjectures, factual misstatements. CD708,4/6/64 Helms to Rankin (page 1 attachment missing this copy). Declassified 6/10/75. Third or other pages to follow also missing.

Walker/Oswald letter apparently from CD1.

3/11/64 Warren to Rank letter asking USSR be asked for documents.3pp. Willens drafted. "...lscks material relating to the years 1969-62..."

Nosenko CD 451 w 3/6/64 JEH cover, last part 1st sentence blacked out. Although JEH says

Nosenko has read and initiated each (9) page, no initialling visible this copy. Nosenko willing to appear and testify before Commission, which did not ask or want him. (Is this the reason this page, never classified, was not given me when I got the pages that follow it in this CD?

The two withheld docs at the end are wihhheld under (b)(1)

This is a singularly vacuous document for such length and the time it took. Internal indications are that pieces were written out of sequence and then out together or there was poor editing.

Of the many significant omissions that from Nosenko's statements of which they include the last only, indicating they had the earlier ones, can't be innocent. Nosenko said and the entire history supports him, that the USSR feared LHO was a "sleeper agent."

Coleman and Slawson knew this and included it in their 6/24/64 memo.

There is an alternative: that if it is not in CD451, which I haven't reread to determine, the FBI might not have given it to the WC by the time they rote this.

It appears that Dan Schorr used part of the last part of this a few nights ago. However, in that broadcast he mixed in what is not here, the anti-Soviet Dallas-Fort Worth community.

There is no reason not to believe this was added by Schorr or his source. It would not be wrong, save that it also was attributed to this "recently declassified" WC documents that does not hold it. Unless he had another.

There is no reason for some of this withholding under law or regulation.

Especially not if it is the part that says the Russians suspected LHO as a sleeper.

There should be FOIA requests for what is withheld, beginning with a request for a review to see if aome of what was masked has since been delcassified. I am certain this is true of at least some. Give Rhoads a list of pages.